GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2305
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Complaints by Research Scholars
Reddy,Kotha Prabhakar

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether research scholars of various Central Universities have rushed their complaints to the Ministry regarding discrimination being meted out to them in the Universities by respective Head of Departments (HoDs) and inaction of the Universities in taking action against the HoDs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the students are seeking Ministry"s permission to resort to self immolation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to alleviate the problems of research scholars in the Universities?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e): Central Universities are autonomous institutions which are governed by their own Acts and Statutes and are competent to deal with such complaints as well as to take all administrative decisions including steps to prevent discrimination against students. Accordingly, complaints received in this Ministry are forwarded to concerned Central Universities for appropriate action.

In order to check discrimination and harassment of any sections of students and to strengthen the grievance redressal mechanism, the UGC has formulated UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions) Regulations, 2012 and UGC (Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012. These Regulations intend to give effect in letter and spirit to the statutory provisions and policies for prevention of discrimination against students.

A Conference of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities was held on February 18, 2016 whereby all the Vice Chancellors have been asked to be more vigilant & put a proper system in place to ensure that the students are not put to any disadvantage/ hardship. The Vice Chancellors have inter-alia agreed to appoint Anti-Discrimination Officer as provided in UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions) Regulations, 2012.
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